(d) Total employment in Assam which was of the order of 80.75 lakh in 1993-94 has gone up to 93.57 lakh in 1999-2000.

Educated unemployed youth

2662. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of educated unemployed youth registered with the employment exchanges in Assam, during the last three years; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government for solving the unemployment problem of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Number of educated (10th Standard and above) job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live register of employment exchanges in the State of Assam as on 31st December, 1999, 2000 and 2001 (latest available) was 10.46,10.82 and 10.37 lakh respectively.

(b) Creation of 50 million employment opportunities (10 million per year) is targeted during the Tenth Plan Period both in the normal growth process and through special employment generation programmes in the country. These will help unemployed youth in the State of Assam also.

International Labour Organisation

2663. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether India consistently abstained from ratifying the Convention (No. 87) on Freedom of Association and Protection of Right to Organise and the Convention (No. 98) on Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining of International Labour Organisation (ILO);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken to ratify the above conventions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Conventions could not be ratified as our national laws and practices are not in conformity with the provisions of these Conventions. As per practice, an ILO Convention is ratified only when the national laws and practices are brought fully in conformity with the provisions of the Conventions in question. There is no specific time frame for ratification of these Conventions.

(d) ILO have been requested to revise these Conventions with some flexibility so as to enable us to ratify these Conventions at the earliest.

Training opportunities

2664. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to provide training opportunities to the poor at affordable costs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) in what manner the funding would be arranged for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Government efforts have always been to give access of training to the trainees at an affordable cost. Tuition fee for Craftsmen Training in institutes run by Ministry of Labour is Rs. 20/- per trainee per month. No tuition fee is charged from SC/ ST and physically handicapped trainees.

(c) The tuition fee for State Governments/Private run Industrial Training Institutes is decided by the respective State Council for Vocational Training.

The funds for conducting training are arranged by the Central/ State Governments/Union Territory Administration/Private agencies from their own budget.